

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIA-15

AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02 ISO-00 ABF-01

OMB-01 TRSE-00 SP-02 L-02 H-02 PA-02 PRS-01 OES-05

AEC-07 /115 W

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P R 161723Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4307

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 27357

NESCO

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, OCON, UNESCO

SUBJECT: UNESCO 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE: ITEM 43.1:

CONTINUING DUTCH AND JAPANESE OBJECTIONS TO
ASSESSMENT SCALE

REF: (A) PARIS 26292: (B) STATE 245575

1. DUTCH AND JAPANESE OBJECTIONS REPORTED IN REFTEL
CONVEYING NOVEMBER 6 ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION VOTE ON
NEW ASSESSMENT SCALE CONTAINED IN DR (DOC. 18 C/50)
HAVE PERSISTED DESPITE THEIR SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATIONS
WITH SECRETARIAT.

2. AS PLENARY SESSION VOTE APPROVING NEW ASSESSMENT
SCALE SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 20, PERMDEL THOUGHT DEPT.
WOULD BE INTERESTED IN DUTCH PERMDEL LETTER TO SECRE-
TARIAT OF NOV. 15; COPY OF WHICH DUTCH DELOFF GAVE TO
US. IN JOINT CONVERSATION WITH DUTCH AND JAPANESE DEL-
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OFFS IT WAS INDICATED TO DELOFF THAT DUTCH AND POSSIBLY

JAPANESE MAY RAISE FORMAL OBJECTION TO NEW ASSESSMENT SCALE IN PLENARY.

3. OPERATIVE PARTS OF DUTCH LETTER FOLLOW:

GON

". . . DOUBTS CENTRE ON THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS OF DOCUMENT 28 C/ADM/INF.6:

(L) PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE DOCUMENT SHOULD HAVE BEEN BALANCED OUT BY THE QUOTATION OF SUB PARAGRAPH (C) OF RESOLUTION 2961 (XXVII) OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, WHICH READS AS FOLLOWS: '.....THE PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTION OF MEMBER STATES SHALL NOT IN ANY CASE IN THE UNITED NATIONS, THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES OR THE IAEA BE INCREASED AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THE PRESENT RESOLUTION'.

(2) PARAGRAPH 2 (A) OF 18 C/ADM/INF.6 INCLUDES THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC AS A NEW MEMBER STATE. HOWEVER, THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC WAS ADMITTED TO UNESCO ON NOVEMBER 21, 1972, WHEREAS RESOLUTION 2961 (XXVII) IS DATED DECEMBER 13, 1972. CONSEQUENTLY, THE PERCENTAGE-CONTRIBUTION OF THIS MEMBER STATE CANNOT BE UTILIZED, IN THIS CONNECTION, IN ORDER TO DECREASE THE MAXIMUM PERCENTAGE TO 25.

(3) IN PARAGRAPH 2(A) PERCENTAGES OF 0.04 ARE MENTIONED FOR GAMBIA, GUINEA-BISSAU AND SAN MARINO. IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THESE NEW MEMBER STATES WILL CONTRIBUTE 0.02 TO UNESCO'S BUDGET FOR THE COMING BIENNIUM, A TOTAL OF 0.06 SHOULD BE SUBTRACTED FROM THE PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTIONS MENTIONED IN PARAGRAPH 2(A) OF THE AFORESAID DOCUMENT.

(4) HENCE, THE TOTAL OF PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTIONS OF NEWLY ADMITTED MEMBER STATES (UNESCO SCALE) SHOULD BE DECREASED FROM 1.64 TO 0.27.

(5) FURTHERMORE, WHILST PARAGRAPH 2(A) UTILIZES THE UNCLASSIFIED

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UNESCO SCALE FOR 1973/1974, PARAGRAPH 2(B) BASES ITSELF ON THE UNITED NATIONS SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS. IN THE VIEW OF MY GOVERNMENT IT IS INCORRECT TO USE THESE TWO DIFFERENT SCALES IN THE SAME CALCULATION. THE U.N. SCALE SHOULD HAVE BEEN ADAPTED IN ORDER TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE DIFFERENCE IN MEMBERSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND UNESCO.

(6) FROM THE ABOVE MY AUTHORITIES CONCLUDE THAT THE CALCULATIONS MADE IN PARAGRAPH 3 CONTAIN INEXACTITUDES. THE 18TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF UNESCO HAS TO DECIDE ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE GRADUAL REDUCTION OF THE MAXIMUM PERCENTAGE TO 25 - AS FAR AS SUCH IS POSSIBLE IN VIEW OF THE REGULATION IN FORCE. IT WOULD APPEAR INJUSTIFIABLE TO SIMPLY BEGIN CALCULA-

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TIONS FOR ALL FIGURES OF THE PERCENTAGES AS THEY APPEAR IN THE UNITED NATIONS SCALES OF ASSESSMENTS. ONE OF THE EFFECTS OF THIS METHOD, ACCORDING TO THE NETHERLANDS AUTHORITIES, IS THAT THE NETHERLANDS CONTRIBUTION- PERCENTAGE FOR UNESCO IS RAISED BY 0.13 PERCENT, WHEREAS THE INCREASE IN OUR PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTION IN THE UNITED NATIONS SCALE AMOUNTED ONLY TO 0.06 PERCENTAGE. ONE REASON FOR THIS APPEARS TO BE THAT THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY IS A MEMBER STATE OF UNESCO OF LONG STANDING.

(7) MY GOVERNMENT FEELS THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN USEFUL IF, FOR COMPARISON'S SAKE, A COLUMN OF THE PREVIOUS SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS (1971-1973) HAD BEEN ADDED TO PARAGRAPH 4.

(8) THE FIRST COLUMN OF PARAGRAPH 4 INCLUDES AS MEMBER STATES OF THE UNITED NATIONS A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES THAT ARE MEMBER OF UNESCO BUT NOT OF THE UNITED NATIONS
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ITSELF. THESE COUNTRIES RECEIVE A NUMBER OF SERVICES FROM THE UNITED NATIONS FOR WHICH THEY CONTRIBUTE TO THE N. BUDGET ACCORDINGLY. THESE SUMS ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOTAL OF THE N. SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS. A FOOTNOTE TO THIS EFFECT WOULD HAVE BEEN NECESSARY TO EXPLAIN THE SITUATION.

IN VIEW OF THESE ARGUMENTS THE NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT FEELS OBLIGED, ONCE AGAIN, TO RAISE A FORMAL OBJECTION AGAINST THE NEW SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS OF UNESCO, AS SET OUT IN DOCUMENT 18 C/50. HOWEVER, WE ARE PREPARED, PROVISIONALLY, TO ACCEPT THIS DOCUMENT ON THE CONDITION THAT THE SECRETARIAT AGREES TO A RETRO-ACTIVE CORRECTION OF THIS SCALE. IN THIS CONNECTION THE ADVICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTIONS IS, IN OUR OPINION, AS I STATED BEFORE, INDISPENSABLE." END OF LETTER.

4. WHILE DEPT'S REFTTEL INDICATED DEMARCHES NOT CONSIDERED NECESSARY TO INFO ADDRESSEES, DEPT. MAY WISH IN WASHINGTON OR IN NEW YORK TO DISCUSS THIS WITH GON AND GOJ IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE POSSIBLE PLENARY ARGUMENTS ON THIS ISSUE. DUTCH DELOFF SAID HE INFORMED THAT US GOVERNMENT EXPERTS AT USUN COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTIONS RECOGNIZED THAT UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES WOULD POSE PARTICULAR PROBLEMS RE INTRODUCTION OF NEW REDUCED US ASSESSMENT. FURTHER, DUTCH SAY THAT ABOVE LETTER REFERRED TO "RETRO-ACTIVE CORRECTION" MIGHT ENTAIL US ASSESSMENT OF 25.21 PERCENT.
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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US Department of State
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